**May 21st, 2023 Seventh Sunday of Easter – Email/At Home Missal**

**ZOOM INFORMATION FOR SUNDAY MAY 21, 2023-THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**The ZOOM link for today’s service, which opens at 9.30 am on May 21st, 2023, can be found here:**

**Sunday Worship May 21st, 2023 09:30 am ZOOM room opens; service begins at 10 am.**

**Join Zoom Meeting click here:**[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85929098103?pwd=QlJFNUV1Slg3MHhOeGVEalJMdXMvZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85929098103?pwd=QlJFNUV1Slg3MHhOeGVEalJMdXMvZz09)

**Meeting ID: 859 2909 8103 Passcode: 171662**

**You don’t have to have a computer or internet to connect to any of our church Zoom services; you can also just call in on one of these numbers (long distance charges may apply): (All Canadian numbers). You can also access the ZOOM from your telephone by using the “One tap mobile” option:**

**+17789072071,,85929098103#,,,,\*171662# Canada,**

**+17806660144,,85929098103#,,,,\*171662# Canada**

**Dial by your location:**

**+1 778 907 2071 Canada**

**+1 780 666 0144 Canada**

**+1 204 272 7920 Canada**

**+1 438 809 7799 Canada**

**+1 587 328 1099 Canada**

**+1 647 374 4685 Canada**

**+1 647 558 0588 Canada**

**Meeting ID: 859 2909 8103 Passcode: 171662**

**Find your local number:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kerkltBAqg**](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kerkltBAqg)

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**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 21, 2023:**

**Here is the YouTube link for the service from last Sunday, May 14th, 2023:**

[**https://youtu.be/aC5-vHZQS6c**](https://youtu.be/aC5-vHZQS6c)

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**PASTORAL VISITS**: Pastor Laura Sauder is available for safe visits with social distancing requirements in place, and also for telephone visits. Please reach out to her by calling the church office at 519-653-4721 to arrange a visit.

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**Bible Study will be in the Art Room on Mondays at 3:00PM.**

**Please join us – all are welcome!**

1. **…………………………..**

You can order your own Maple Syrup from St. Peter’s, Preston. Our partner is a 5th generation Woolwich Township farm that has been producing maple syrup for over 100 years. They adhere to the production guidelines issued by the Ontario Maple Syrup Association, which state the number of taps per tree (max. of 2) for best forest management practices. Handling of the sap and syrup is minimized to reduce the chance of contamination. Their syrup is pure with nothing added, only the water has been removed. As of 2018 their maple syrup is certified organic.

**1 litre Mason Jars of maple syrup are $23.00.**

**Send an email to or** **alexblack@sympatico.ca** **or call the church office at 519-653-4721 to order your own locally produced fresh Maple Syrup.**

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**Greenhorizons BigYellowBag - Give & Grow Program**

This fundraiser is open to all and enables each one of us to raise funds for St. Peters. If you don’t have a lawn or garden, you can still help by spreading the word to your neighbours, friends and relatives.

Each time that an order is placed at Greenhorizons Sod at 519.653.7494 for a **BigYellowBag** of soil using the **code SPLCC23** you will save $5.00, and the church will receive $10.00.

Spread the word, and the soil!​

**……………………………..**

**Bridges VBS 2023 Knights of North Castle** - Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God’s power! Application Forms are located in the narthex or by calling the church office at 519-653-4721. Dates: July 10-14, 2023, 9:00am – 4:00 pm Children who are between the ages of 5 and 11 (as of December 31, 2023). Registration fee of $125/participant (including lunch & snacks) is due upon registration. Please make cheques payable to Bridges VBS (please note child’s name on cheque, post-dated cheques will not be accepted). As this camp is running at cost, tax receipts will not be issued and registration fees are non-refundable. Registration closes June 1st, or when spaces are filled. Location: St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church (317 Franklin St. N, Kitchener). We are extremely grateful to St. Luke's for hosting us and can't wait to be in this great space. This week long VBS is run solely by volunteers, both youth and adult. There are many volunteer opportunities that cover a wide range of skill, as well as a variety of time commitments. [bridgesvbs.weebly.com](http://bridgesvbs.weebly.com/)

**…………………………..**

**Yard Sale - Tentative dates are July 7 and 8, 2023.** We’re looking for good, gently used, clean items of all kinds, and clothing. Please – no very large mirrors, no complete dining room suites, no large old television sets. If you’re unsure of whether what you have is suitable or not, leave a message at the church office. So – start your spring clear out and think of St. Peter’s. We’d love to re-purpose your goods and make a new owner happy. Items may be dropped off at church; just let us know when we can meet with you.

**…………………………….**

**May Worship Series**

**Overview:**

One of the foundations of Christian justice is the recognition that God has abundantly provided for creation. Stated more simply, there’s enough to go around! But the idea of abundance is radical in a culture that constantly asks if there is enough for everyone. The St Peter’s Ministry of Vision in Mission invites you to join us each Sunday in May as we explore the theme of abundance in our worship together.

**Week 3 Stewardship of Abundance**:

Part of our call as Christians is to be good stewards of the abundant gifts God has given us. But what does faithful stewardship of resources look like? Join us as we explore together what it means to trust in God’s providence and the promise that there will be enough for everyone.

**…………………………………**

**Menno Singers has a new date for our postponed Spring Concert**: Monday, June 5 at 7:30pm at St Jacobs Mennonite Church (1310 King St. N, St Jacobs). **‘a light exists in spring’** will include music for spring, seasonal congregational hymns, door prizes and refreshments to follow. $25 Adults. $5 Children/Students. Previous physical tickets honoured, or purchase new tickets online or at the door (cash or credit) [www.mennosingers.com](http://www.mennosingers.com)

**………………………………….**

**Grand River Ministry Area – 4th Annual Church Picnic**

**Sunday, June 11th – Gathering Time at 10:00 am, Worship Service at 10:30 am (including Communion)**

**St. Luke’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, 317 Franklin Street North, Kitchener.** Games, Music, Activities for adults and children. Lunch will be served after Worship Service. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and an umbrella for the sun. Seating will include paved parking lot and grassed area.

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**Community Wellness Project -** Personal Care Clinic, Foot care, Haircuts *(pay as you can)*Thursday, May 25: 8:45 to Noon
Trillium United Church, 450 King Street East, Cambridge
By appointment only
519-653-6601 ext. 4

**………………………………….**

**Community of Faith Gathering**

**All ages are welcome to this mid-week**

**plug-in and power-up your faith event.**

**What happens at a “Power-Up” evening?**

**\*Fellowship, \*Fun, \*Faith, \*Food (and Free)**

We will begin the evening with a Bible story told through storytelling, a play, or puppetry, and sing some songs.

We will eat together with food provided by the hosting Church.

We will conclude the evening with crafts and activities.

**When: June 7, 5:30pm-7:30pm**

**Where: St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, 810 King St. E., Cambridge**

Contact: **Rev. Laura Sauder** (pastor at St. Peter’s) pastor@st-peters-cambridge.org

Or Heather Margerison (children and youth pastor at Trillium) heathermargerisontrillium@gmail.com

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**The Ministry of Vision and Mission is hosting an hour of "meaningful conversation" on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.
We are excited to invite you to join the conversation and gather your thoughts and ideas to further St. Peter's connection and contribution to God's community.**

**………………………………..
Presiding Pastor: Rev. Laura Sauder
Organist & Director of Music: Bradley Moggach
Assisting Minister: Sarah Gomes
Reader: Austin Dykstra**

**Land Acknowledgement:**

Here at St. Peter's in Cambridge, we acknowledge that we are on the ancestral lands of the Attawandaron, or Neutrals, the Anishinaabe, and the Haudenosaunee Peoples. Before the arrival of European settlers, these First Peoples had agreements between them represented by wampum belts from which they understood how to use the resources sustainably. One of these wampum belts is called the ‘Dish With One Spoon’ Belt. This wampum agreement represents the abundant land and water in what is now known as the Great Lakes Region with a dish, or bowl. Each tribe was to use the one spoon to remove only those resources they needed to live sustainably and then pass the dish onto others so that the abundance was shared. We are grateful for this example of using our abundance sustainably so that our resources are never depleted but shared equally for the benefit of all and continuing to the next seven generations.

**Gathering Hymn: ELW # 579 ‘Lord, You Give the Great Commission’**

1 Lord, you give the great commission:

 "Heal the sick and preach the word."

 Lest the church neglect its mission,

 and the gospel go unheard,

 help us witness to your purpose

 with renewed integrity:

***Refrain***

 ***With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us***

 ***for the work of ministry.***

2 Lord, you call us to your service:

 "In my name baptize and teach."

 That the world may trust your promise,

 life abundant meant for each,

 give us all new fervor, draw us

 closer in community: ***Refrain***

3 Lord, you make the common holy:

 "This my body, this my blood."

 Let us all, for earth's true glory,

 daily lift life heavenward,

 asking that the world around us

 share your children's liberty: ***Refrain***

4 Lord, you show us love's true measure:

 "Father, what they do, forgive."

 Yet we hoard as private treasure

 all that you so freely give.

 May your care and mercy lead us

 to a just society: ***Refrain***

5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:

 "I am with you to the end."

 Faith and hope and love restoring,

 may we serve as you intend

 and, amid the cares that claim us,

 hold in mind eternity: ***Refrain***

*(Title:**Lord, You Give the Great Commission; Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934; text © 1978, Ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991; © 1942, Ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.* *Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Greeting**:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

***C: And also with you.***

**Prayer of the Day***:*

**God of abundance, every good thing we have is a gift from you. Help us to be good stewards of these gifts. Help us to hold them with gentleness, gratefulness, and openness, knowing that they come from you to be a blessing to all people. As we gather to worship, we pray for your Spirit to be among us and inspire us to live into this vision of sharing. Amen.**

**Lesson Introduction *(Pastor Laura)***

**Deuteronomy 24:19-22**

This section of the book of Deuteronomy includes many rules that were intended to help the Israelites live into the Ten Commandments. Rules to help them love God and to love their neighbours.

In these verses we hear an instruction to leave a portion of their crops so that the most vulnerable among them would also be fed. These verses are an invitation for us to ask ourselves: how much do we really need? How much is enough?

Can we trust that we don’t need it all for ourselves? That when we leave some for others, when we share from what we have, that there will be enough for us all? Let us listen to the word…

**The First Reading: Deuteronomy 24:19-22**

Whenever you are reaping the harvest of your field and you leave some grain in the field, don’t go back and get it. Let it go to the immigrants, the orphans, and the widows so that the Lord your God blesses you in all that you do. Similarly, when you beat the olives off your olive trees, don’t go back over them twice. Let the leftovers go to the immigrants, the orphans, and the widows. Again, when you pick the grapes of your vineyard, don’t pick them over twice. Let the leftovers go to the immigrants, the orphans, and the widows. Remember how you were a slave in Egypt. That’s why I am commanding you to do this thing. *(CEB)*

Word of God, Word of Life*.* ***C: Thanks be to God.****\**

**Lesson Introduction *(Pastor Laura)***

**Acts 4:32-37**

One of the unspoken values in our culture is this idea that what’s mine is mine. That I have earned my money and my possessions, and therefore it’s my right to choose what I do with them. This idea is widely accepted in our society that we don’t even really think much about it.

But these verses from the book of Acts push us to think more deeply about this belief.

The witness of the early church is that what’s mine is actually God’s. And perhaps, when we learn to hold our money and possessions a little less tightly, space is made for God’s grace to abound. Let us listen to the word…

**The Second Reading: Acts 4:32-37**

The community of believers was one in heart and mind. None of them would say, “This is mine!” about any of their possessions, but held everything in common. The apostles continued to bear powerful witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and an abundance of grace was at work among them all. There were no needy persons among them. Those who owned properties or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds from the sales, and place them in the care and under the authority of the apostles. Then it was distributed to anyone who was in need.

Joseph, whom the apostles nicknamed Barnabas that is, “one who encourages”, was a Levite from Cyprus. He owned a field, sold it, brought the money, and placed it in the care and under the authority of the apostles. *(CEB)*

Word of God, Word of Life*.* ***C: Thanks be to God.****\**

**Message for All Ages *(Pastor Laura)***

**Gospel Acclamation: ACSSetting 12 *(page 33)***

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.\*

**The Holy Gospel according to John 12:1-8**

***C: Glory to you, O Lord.***

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, home of Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Lazarus and his sisters hosted a dinner for him. Martha served and Lazarus was among those who joined him at the table. Then Mary took an extraordinary amount, almost three-quarters of a pound, of very expensive perfume made of pure nard. She anointed Jesus’ feet with it, then wiped his feet dry with her hair. The house was filled with the aroma of the perfume. Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), complained, “This perfume was worth a year’s wages! Why wasn’t it sold and the money given to the poor?” He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief. He carried the money bag and would take what was in it.

Then Jesus said, “Leave her alone. This perfume was to be used in preparation for my burial, and this is how she has used it. You will always have the poor among you, but you won’t always have me.” *(CEB)*

The Gospel of the Lord.***C: Praise to you, O Christ***

1. **Sermon**

**John 12:1-8**

Well let me just start by saying, I have struggled with this text this week. What does this story about excess have to teach us about stewardship? What can Mary teach us about how to take care of the gifts God has entrusted to us?

I’ll be honest, that my gut reaction is to side with Judas on this one, although from a place of genuine concern for the poor. It certainly seems like a waste to use all that expensive perfume to anoint someone’s feet when there are so many in need in our world. Mary’s actions do seem wasteful and excessive. And I mean, aren’t we supposed to care about the poor? Isn’t this what Jesus’ ministry was all about?

I actually wondered for a moment earlier in the week whether I should just change out the gospel reading for something different. Maybe a story like the feeding of the multitudes – where Jesus feeds thousands of people with just a few loaves of bread and fish. That feels like a story about abundance that we can relate to. We in the church know all about trying to make a big impact with limited resources.

But then it hit me. My discomfort with this passage was exactly the point. Anyone who’s had anything to do with church and finances knows just how difficult this work is. Money is often a sensitive topic in the church.

Do we have enough of it? Can we agree on how it should be spent? It seems to me that this passage from John’s gospel pushes us to think about these two hard questions: do we have enough of it and can we agree on how it should be spent?

I have to confess, I struggle to get my head around the promise of God’s abundance. This idea that we already have enough – in fact, more than enough – to sustain our lives, our ministry, our community. Do we really? Because some days I do wonder as so many churches are struggling to pay the bills. But maybe it’s more the fact that these days we don’t have an abundance of the things we think we need to do ministry.

The things we wish for to do ministry – or at least to do the ministry the way it’s been done in the recent past (by which I guess I mean the last 50 years or so). People and money. We don’t have an abundance of either. But is that the abundance we need to do ministry?

One of my seminary professors [1] from LTS in Saskatoon who did a lot of work with rural congregations had an exercise he would lead with congregations to help them get out of that mindset of ‘not having enough.’

He would ask them to imagine this scenario: overnight, across denominations, God kills all the clergy, strikes every church with lightning and burns them all to the ground, and then evaporates the bank accounts of every congregation. In an instant they are left with no money, no clergy, no buildings (the things we normally understand to be essential to a viable congregation), just a smoking pile of ash where their church once stood and a funeral to attend. Then he asks them to think about what they have left to do ministry with.

As you can imagine, folks struggle with this exercise at first. We’re so used to thinking of ministry as needing a pastor, a building and money that it’s hard to think about it differently.

But as he pushes people to think about what resources or skills they have to offer, what assets or gifts they could share, the abundance of God’s gifts is made visible and possibilities for ministry start to blossom.

It shifts that question from “do we have enough” to “what can we do with what we have,” which is what stewardship is all about.

But even when we’re able to shift our mindset to appreciate all the varied and abundant gifts we have for ministry, we still run into that problem of how best to use them. It’s not a fun place to be – at odds about how to use the resources we have – but at least we’re not alone in our struggles.

You can just imagine the tension in that room, when Judas, in front of everyone, criticizes Mary’s act of love and devotion. I wonder, how many silently agreed with Judas, knowing how many people that much money could help. I wonder how many knew about Judas’ tendency to skim a little off the top for himself when donations came in for Jesus’ ministry.

It must have been an uncomfortable silence, until Jesus speaks up, defending Mary and reminding Judas that this isn’t the time or place for this particular conversation.

It’s important to say that I don’t think Jesus is dismissing the poor. He’s not saying that the poor shouldn’t be taken care of. Jesus’ whole ministry has been about helping those in need – he isn’t changing his message now.

What I hear Jesus saying to Judas is this: ‘Judas, it isn’t an ‘either or’ proposition as you make it out to be. Mary can offer this act of loving devotion AND we will keep on caring for the poor. There’s no need to humiliate or belittle one of your fellow disciples as they live out their faith.’

Whenever you have two or more people together, there will be differing opinions on how to handle finances and resources. It’s true in families, it’s true in congregations. Judas and Mary remind us that we are not alone. They also offer us an example of not a great way of handling these differences of opinions.

The question this raises for me: can we be a community that is able to have the difficult conversations with respect and care? Can we make space for all voices to be heard? Can we listen with open hearts and curiosity to those who feel differently than we do? Can we be brave enough (and feel safe enough) to share any misgivings or opposing ideas with the whole community, rather than simply sharing our views with a trusted few?

Because stewardship is one thing when we’re talking on the individual level. It’s a whole other ball game when we’re trying to steward resources as a community. And sadly, there’s no one size fits all congregations. We have to do the hard work ourselves, discerning how God is calling us to steward our abundant resources in this time and place.

Knowing just how hard – and how important – this work of stewardship is, I want to invite us into a time of prayer. To confess the ways we often fail to trust that God has in fact provided enough, and to ask for God’s help and guidance to be good stewards of the abundance with which we have been entrusted. Because turning to prayer is an important practice as we seek to live into that understanding that what is ours, is actually God’s.

You may remain seated. I invite you to listen and reflect on these words as I lead us in prayer.

**Prayer of Confession & Commitment**

Gracious God,

Your abundant creation holds all that we need to live well,

and yet because we have failed to share these gifts fairly and equitably,

we struggle to trust in your providence.

Many in our world do not have enough,

and many have more than they could ever possibly need for a hundred lifetimes.

Forgive us for the times when we have put away more than we can ever use,

or when we have circled the wagons to maintain what we have when others go without.

Give us courage to move forward with faith in your provision.

Give us wisdom and creativity to explore together the ways we as a congregation

might be better stewards of the abundance we have inherited,

to fulfill our mission to love and serve.

Ease our worry, our fear, our anxiety about our own survival.

Help us to trust that there will be enough for everyone.

For you are a God who knows how to make a way, where to us, there seems to be no way.

Praise be to you, our creator and loving parent.

Amen

*1 References to Prof. Harder and his workshop from: Cameron Harder. Discovering the Other. (Herndon, VA: Alban Institute, 2013), chapter 4.*

**Hymn of the Day: ELW # 583 ‘Take, My Life, That I May Be’**

***Refrain***

 ***Take my life, that I may be***

 ***consecrated, Lord, to thee;***

 ***take my moments and my days;***

 ***let them flow in ceaseless praise.***

1 Take my hands and let them move

 at the impulse of thy love;

 take my feet and let them be

 swift and beautiful for thee. ***Refrain***

2 Take my silver and my gold,

 not a mite would I withhold;

 take my intellect and use

 ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. ***Refrain***

3 Take my voice and let me sing

 always, only for my King;

 take my lips and let them be

 filled with messages from thee. ***Refrain***

4 Take my will and make it thine;

 it shall be no longer mine;

 take my heart, it is thine own;

 it shall be thy royal throne. ***Refrain***

*(Title: Take My Life, That I May Be; Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adap.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875-1955; Public Domain*

*Music: William Dexhheimer Parris, b. 1956; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954; Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

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**Prayers of Intercession:**

A: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of harmony, as you drew your son to your side, you draw us to you and unite us with the planet and one another. Weave your church together in a web of mutual love for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God.***C: Your mercy is great.***

As your Spirit hovered over the waters of creation, so your Spirit hovers over all that you have made. Bless the water that sustains the planet and grant wisdom to use it wisely. Hear us, O God.***C: Your mercy is great.***

You empower your people with the fire of your Spirit. Challenge activists and organizers, teachers and politicians, and all in leadership to speak a message of peace and justice. Hear us, O God.***C: Your mercy is great.***

You care for all your children. Show your steadfast love to those suffering isolation, especially exiles, refugees, or prisoners. Break the chains of all held fast by systemic oppression of any kind. Comfort all who are afraid or suffering from illness (Especially we pray for Bill, Don, Tammy, Alice, Don, Lynn, Bryan, Nansea, Helen, Sharon, Donald, Creena, Shirley, Clara, Carol, Jeff, Aaron, Mackenzie, Rhett, Linda, Jan, Ken, Lena, Brian, John, Anne, Pastor Neil, Robin, Lee, Jeff, and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts…..). Hear us, O God.***C: Your mercy is great.***

We give thanks that humankind serves as your body in the world, stewarding your abundant gifts. Guide our congregation as we seek your will and serve our neighbours. Hear us, O God.***C: Your mercy is great.***

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ’s resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.\***

**Share the peace of Christ:**

Angels said it to startled shepherds,

Jesus said it to frightened followers,

And now these words which come from heaven

are shared to make us whole and make us one.

Peace be with you.

***C: And also with you.***

*(A Wee Worship Book – Liturgy for Holy Communion A #30810; Type: Words; First Line: Call to worship – Gather us in; Language: English (pages 80-92); Contributors: Iona community; Text: © 1999, WGRG, Iona community, GIA Publications, Inc; exclusive North American agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

P: Out of God’s abundance, we share our resources, as we are able, for the work of our common ministry.

**Offering**

**Offering Hymn: ELW # 465 ‘As the Grains of Wheat’**

***Refrain***

 ***As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill***

 ***were gathered into one to become our bread;***

 ***so may all your people from all the ends of earth***

 ***be gathered into one in you.***

1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,

 may we share the presence of your love. ***Refrain***

2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come

 when all creation shares this feast with you. ***Refrain***

*(Title: As the Grains of Wheat; Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Offering Prayer:**

A: Generous God,

in this meal you offer your very self.

We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.

In the breaking of this bread

reveal to us the Risen One.

In the pouring of this wine

pour us out in service to the world;

through Christ our Lord.

Amen.\*

You are invited to prepare your table with bread and wine, or crackers and juice, whatever is available to you, so that you may participate in the meal.

**Meal**: Click here for the communion liturgy from worship on YouTube:

[**https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4**](https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4)

**Great Thanksgiving: ACS Setting 12: ‘Dialogue…’ *(page 36) (sung)***

The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise**

**ELW Setting 12: ‘Preface…’ (Easter)**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,

the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,

and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**ELW Setting 12: ‘Holy, Holy, Holy…’ (page 36 )**

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow’r and God of might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.\*

**Thanksgiving at the Table:**

On the night before he died,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**The Lord’s Prayer:**

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever.

Amen.

**Invitation to Communion:**

This is Christ’s table. All are welcome here to receive God’s abundant gifts of love, mercy, grace, and forgiveness.

I invite those at home, and those in the building communing by fellowship cup, to take your bread or cracker as we say together, “The body of Christ, given for us.”

And, as we take our cup we say, “The blood of Christ, shed for us.”

**Communion Music: ELW # 708 ‘Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love’**

***Refrain***

***Jesu, Jesu,***

***fill us with your love,***

***show us how to serve***

***the neighbors we have from you.***

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends,

 silently washes their feet,

 master who acts as a slave to them. ***Refrain***

2 Neighbors are wealthy and poor,

 varied in color and race,

 neighbors are near us and far away. ***Refrain***

3 These are the ones we will serve,

 these are the ones we will love;

 all these are neighbors to us and you. ***Refrain***

4 Kneel at the feet of our friends,

 silently washing their feet:

 this is the way we will live with you. ***Refrain***

*(Title: Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love; Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt.; Text © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin; © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you, in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion:**

A: Gracious God,

in you we live and move and have our being.

With your word and this meal of grace,

you have nourished our life together.

Strengthen us to show your love

and serve the world in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

*(A Wee Worship Book – Liturgy for Holy Communion A #30810; Type: Words; First Line: Call to worship – Gather us in; Language: English (pages 80-92); Contributors: Iona community. Text: © 1999, WGRG, Iona community, GIA Publications, Inc; exclusive North American agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission. ) Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Blessing:**

When we see

the body of Christ

still broken in this world,

may we meet it

with lavish grace

and pour ourselves out

with God’s extravagant love.\*

And may the God of all,

who raised ☩ Jesus from the dead,

bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit

to live in the new creation.

Amen.

*\*~ written by Jan L. Richardson, and posted on The Painted Prayerbook.*[*http://paintedprayerbook.com/*](http://paintedprayerbook.com/)

**Sending Hymn: ELW # 670 ‘Build Us Up, Lord’**

Build us up, Lord, build us up;

set in us a strong foundation.

Lead us to do your holy will;

form and shape your new creation.

Build us up, Lord, build us up;

as we guide and teach each other,

help us to share your love with the world:

ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother.

***Refrain***

***Growing in Christ, we plant seeds for the kingdom;***

***we follow in faith what's begun!***

***Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your word***

***to spread the news of your Son!***

Build us up, Lord, build us up;

let our lives reflect your glory.

Cast away all our doubts and fears;

help us tell the world your story.

Build us up, Lord, build us up;

help us bear good fruit for you,

Lord, give us vision and keep us sure.

Grant us faith that's steadfast and true. ***Refrain***

*(Title: Build Us Up, Lord; Text & Music: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952; Text © 2003 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Dismissal:**

A: Go in peace. Trust in the abundance of God.

**C: Thanks be to God.\***

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